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Washington, D. C. 20554

This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC. 515 F 2d 385 (D.C. Circ 1974).

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WILLIAM MAHER COMMENCES DUTIES TODAY AS CHIEF OF FCC WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU

Washington, DC – Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Chairman Michael Powell today announced that William Maher is commencing his duties today as the new Chief of the Wireline Competition Bureau. On June 21, 2002, Powell had announced his intention to name Maher to the position.

Maher was formerly a partner in the telecommunications law firm Halprin, Temple, Goodman & Maher, where since 1994 his practice has addressed wireline, wireless and international telecommunications issues.

Before joining Halprin, Maher served as Associate Administrator, Office of Policy Analysis and Development, for the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) in the U.S. Department of Commerce from 1989 to 1994, where he assisted the Executive Branch in formulating policies on a wide-range of telecommunications issues.

Maher previously served at the FCC from 1985-1989 in the Common Carrier Bureau, as Special Counsel for Competitive Issues. Maher worked on Computer III, Open Network Architecture and federal-state jurisdiction issues.

Maher received a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Notre Dame and an S.M. in Electrical Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. After serving as an engineer on the technical staff of Bell Laboratories, he attended Harvard Law School where he received a J.D in 1984.